

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 CCO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
DOTE-00 EB-07 H-01 INR-07 IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00  
NSC-05 NSCE-00 SP-02 OC-06 PRS-01 SS-15 USIE-00  
USSS-00 SY-05 FAA-00 WRD-01 MCT-01 EUR-12 SCS-03  
SCA-01 SSO-00 INRE-00 /101 W  
-----125501 091452Z /40

O 091425Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8450  
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY DOHA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY SANA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 3772

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINS, KU  
SUBJECT: UPDATE ON KUWAIT HIJACK

REF: KUWAIT 3747 AND PREVIOUS (NOTAL)

1. AS OF 1630 LOCAL TIME JULY 9, THE HIJACKED KAC  
AIRCRAFT IS STILL AT KUWAIT INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT  
AND NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUE. THERE HAS BEEN  
NO REFUELLING BUT FOOD AND DRINK HAVE BEEN  
PROVIDED, ACCORDING TO LOCAL PRESS REPORTS. ONE  
PRESS REPORT TO THE CONTRARY, IT APPEARS THAT NO  
FURTHER PASSENGERS HAVE BEEN ALLOWED TO DISEMBARK  
DURING THE LAST 12 HOURS. THE LOCAL AMBASSADOR OF  
THE PDRY IS PLAYING A PROMINENT ROLE IN THE GIVE  
AND TAKE, ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS. A BRITISH  
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EMBASSY OFFICER, WHO IS IN THE CONTROL TOWER,  
WILL BE IN TOUCH WITH US DURING THE COURSE OF THE  
EVENING.

2. AS THE KUWAIT AIRWAYS HIJACKING NEGOTIATIONS DRAG ON,  
CONFUSION HAS MOUNTED AS TO THE IDENTITY AND GROUP AFFILIATION  
OF THE HIJACKERS THEMSELVES. IT SEEMS PROBABLE, BASED

ON AVAILABLE INFORMATION, THAT, WHOEVER THEY ARE, HIJACKER MOTIVATION MAY HAVE HAD MUCH TO DO WITH INTERNAL PALESTINIAN MOVEMENT RIVALRIES.

3. AL-ANBA STORY NOTED SEPTTEL LAID RESPONSIBILITY TO FATAH, AND ALLEGED COMMENTS OF "ABU THA'IR" ABOUT UNPOPULAR ACT AGAINST HIS MEN BY PLA COMMANDER AND DEMAND THAT ARAFAT AND ABU AL-HUL (PROBABLY HA'IL ABD AL-HAMID, A FATAH INTELLIGENCE LEADER) MEET PLANE IN DAMASCUS. THERE IS AN OVERALL FATAH "REJECTIONIST" TINGE TO THE STATEMENTS. OTHER RECENT REPORTING ON NEW STRESSES BETWEEN FATAH "RIGHT" AND "REJECTIONIST" WINGS LENDS CREDENCE TO THE THEORY THAT THE OPERATION MAY HAVE BEEN A PUBLIC RELATIONS EFFORT ON THE PART OF FATAH ANTI-RIGHTISTS.

4. AT SAME TIME, HOWEVER, WE NOTE MENA STORY ALLEGING THAT HIJACK LEADER IS ONE ABU SA'ID, A PFLP/GENERAL COMMAND OFFICER. FATAH RESPONSIBILITY IS DISCLAIMED. THE KNOWN CLOSE WORKING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN GENERAL COMMAND AND SYRIA WOULD SEEM TO MILITATE AGAINST THIS, UNLESS SOMEBODY CAN FIGURE OUT WHY THE SYRIANS WOULD WANT A HIJACKING AT THIS STAGE. WE WOULD TEND TOWARD ANALYSIS THAT THIS REPORT REPRESENTS A FATAH EFFORT TO PLACE  
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BLAME ENTIRELY OUTSIDE ITS ORGANIZATION.

5. KUWAITI LEADERS CANNOT BUT BE ANGUISHED BY THEIR FORCED INVOLVEMENT IN WHAT APPEARS TO BE AN INTRA-PALESTINIAN QUARREL, ESPECIALLY ONE WHICH HAS JEOPARDIZED THE SAFETY OF KUWAITI VIP'S ABOARD THE AIRCRAFT -- THERE IS ONE REPORT THAT THE KUWAITI CROWN PRINCE'S FINANCIAL ADVISOR IS A PASSENGER, ALONG WITH KUWAITI AMBASSADOR LEBANON BUAYJAN. KUWAITI LEADERS NO DOUBT ARE ALSO AWARE OF KEEN INTEREST ON THE PART OF THE LARGE PALESTINIAN MINORITY HERE IN THIS INCIDENT IN HOW IT WILL BE RESOLVED.  
MAESTRONE

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NNN



## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AIRCRAFT HIJACKING, NEGOTIATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 09-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977KUWAIT03772  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770244-0972  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** 12928a6e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
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**Reference:** 77 KUWAIT 3747  
**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1913682  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** UPDATE ON KUWAIT HIJACK  
**TAGS:** PINS, EAIR, KU, MEA  
**To:** STATE ABU DHABI  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/12928a6e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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